

Abstract

A control apparatus (10) for a boom irrigator (80) comprises a microprocessor (16) and an associated memory (18) to store data corresponding to a desired distribution of fluid by the boom irrigator (80). The boom irrigator (80) has a plurality of control circuits (24). Each control circuit (24) is in communication with the microprocessor (16). Each control circuit (24) actuates at least one fluid control device, or solenoid, (82) in response to instructions received from the microprocessor (16). The microprocessor (16) is responsive to the data in the associated memory (18) and is arranged to communicate with the control circuits (24) to control the operation thereof in accordance with the data. The control apparatus (10) can be used in a system (12) for controlling a boom irrigator (80) which employs a computer system (14) that executes software allowing a user to input design distribution data for the fluid and to store the data. The computer system (14) is arranged to communicate the data to the associated memory (18) of the control apparatus (10).